TL4161

Democratic Republic of East Timor - Fretilin

= R E P O R T =

1. In the following we give a summary of the situation of the population

which is deplorable concerning the question of nutrition. Zone of Tutuala: The five tribes of the village of Tutuala, aside from little mandioc vegetable gardens, have no corn because they did not plant it in the previous season. Some people, who use to have recourse to fishing, cannot go to the seashore because of the restrictions of movement. Mehora, Poros and Porlamano have finished the weeds produced in 1982 and have nothing left to eat. In these three places the population suffers lots of retaliation from the enemy.

Zone of Lospalos: Muapitine, Home, Ira LafenFuibro, Lusrai, Cepelata and Ira Hara (some of them are concentrated around Lospalos) are in the same conditions as Tutuala. The population is doing very badly because it cannot leave the villages and fetch coconuts on the hillsides next to the plain and has not been able to plant. The fields next to Louro, Soro and Sorulua have not been planted and the population is also doing badly, but even so they still have the coconuts around the fields.

Zone of Lore: Maluro and Ili Lapa manage to supplement the little food they have with the coconuts.

Zone of Moro: in better conditions, but the fields of Maina I and II, Cerelau and Baduro only serve to supply "cumbili" (vegetable) that grow on the edge of the fields as well as coconuts.

Zone of Iliomar: aside from the little corn and mandioc vegetable gardens, the survival of the population has been assured by the recourse to eating"sagu"(roots).

Zone of Luro: is the zone of permanent hunger, because sweet potato used to be the basic food. This year they have not been able to plant due to the restrictions that were imposed and the population has no potatoes to eat.

Zone of Laiasi: the last corn crop is being finished, but people survive with mandioc which is starting to spoil because it is old.

Zone of Laga: the ricefields on the edge of Laga belong to the favoured ones, who own buffalos which were taken away from suspected supporters of Fretilin. In spite of the corn and mandioc vegetable gardens on the fields of the hillsides, the villages of Samalai, Saelari, Sagadate and Atebri (concentrated along the road Laga-Baguia) have survived on breadfruit which is already out of season and what they still had from the vegetable gardens is nearly finished because they were impeded from planting during the previous season.

Zone of Baguia: the population is doing very badly and the sweet

potato, the basic food, so far only has leaves which are eaten by the population. More toward the center of the village, the owners of land also have mandioc. The people of the tribes which formerly lived in the mountains and in Leguman have now been concentrated in the area surrounding the village and even do not have the recourse to "cumbili", "sagu" or coconut because these things do not exist in the area.

Zone of Kelikai: Also is a zone of permanent hunger. The population has no corn, mandioc does not grow well because of the climate and the production of sweet potato is weak. As in previous years, the population could have recourse to wild growing leaves, weeds or coconuts, but the restriction of movement beyond Meku or out of the village forces the population to only eat papaya leaves and green papayas.

Zone of Uato Lari: here it is not allowed to plant on the northern part of the road Vikeke-Uato-Lari and the new vegetable gardens on the southern part of the road have not had sufficient crops, due to the restrictions which impeded access to the vegetable gardens. In many places (Uato-Lari, Ossu, Venilale, Seical, Rade Uma, Vemasse, Laleia) the planting of corn in badly prepared vegetable gardens was done out of season and the little that they managed to plant dried up because the rainfalls stopped. The populations of the fields of Kapuas, Maluro Komo, Meabuti, Be Bui and Lugaça only have recourse now to "cumbili", "sagu" and "maek" that grow near the fields. Because the population cannot move further, the situation will be much worse in the coming months of the dry season.

Zones of Ossu and Venilale: Not as bad as Kelikai, even though a large part of the population is suffering from hunger because they were not allowed to plant in the previous season and they still have recourse to mandioc.

Zone of Baukau: in the surrounding areas from Seiçal to Gari Uai and from Loilubo to Bukoli, the population strongly feels the restrictions of movement to their own vegetable gardens. The population has no corn left and is surviving on mandioc that is still in the vegetable gardens, but in the coming months the population will be doing much worse.

Zone of Vemasse: the production of the few ricefields on the coast was poor this year. The majority of the population that formerly lived in the interior is now concentrated around the village and is struggling continuously with the problem of land for production and since the population did not plant in the previous season, people only have recourse to "sagu".

Zone of Vikeke: on the fields of Bua Norak, Be Loi, Bikaoin and Luca, the only recourse people have is to crush into meal "sagu" by day and by night.In Klaterek Mutiu, where the population from Kraras that managed to survive has been concentrated, people are dying of hunger because they even do not have knives to cut the "sagu".

Zones of Lacluta, Barike, Soibada and F. Berliu : the areas for planting have become smaller and there is no corn left. Only the mandioc of the production of 1982 is continuing to feed the people. Also here the (spoiled) mandioc is poisoning the population.

Zone of Laleia: the problems of land and of hunger are also the permanent situation of Laleia. Even though the population managed to plant a little corn north of the road, when the ears of corn were still green the authorities of the occupation forced the population to cut the crop "for security reasons"; the little corn that was cut became spoiled and the people only can go to the coast (always accompanied by the forces) to gather tamarind and some wild leaves. Some people who had recourse to fishing and to gathering salt, cannot do it now due to the restrictions. There are many weeds just two kilometers out of the village, but the population is even not allowed to have recourse to "maek" or "sagu".

Zone of Laclubar: the sweet potato and "kortas"(basic food) cannot satisfy the hunger and the population is using "koto morek" that grows on the hillsides of Uma Lima and Maubere. The population "does not know" corn.

Zone of Alas: the population is doing very badly and for many months has not been able to reach the vegetable gardens. The people were forced to let the little corn in the vegetable gardens become spoiled.

Zone of Manatuto: hunger is chronic as it as been in the past and the size of the ricefields is smaller than before and these fields do not belong to the whole population. Although there are some little vegetable gardens, the people in general have always to eat "sagu".

Zone of Same: Nothing grows on the fields of Dare, Xipantiga, Rotuto, Seu Sate, Holaina and Gorotu and the people are doing badly.
Everywhere the majority of the population has no clothes.

2. <u>Now we present some data on the atrocities commited by the authorities and forces of occupation</u>

a) New "atauros" (prison islands) and new "comarcas" (prisons) outside of East Timor
Already for six times from October 1983 to last May, Garuda (Indonesian airline) has transported prisoners from Dili to Bali, Kupang and Flores. As they leave the prisons of Dili until they enter the plane, the prisoners, two by two, are tied together by their thumbs. This situation has been seen by all the people who were at the airport; the family members of the prisoners who live in Dili were allowed to say good-bye to their husbands, fathers or sons. As it is impossible to give

the name of all the prisoners, we only can say that among them were David Ximenes, ex-candidate for the position of an officer of the Portuguese army and imprisoned since June 1980; Antonio da Piedade, born in Uaibota-Ossu, ex-administrator of a village during the colonial times.

b) An inhumane act in Mehara as practice of the"nangallas" (special forces to combat subversion)
After an operation on the road between Mehara and Tutuala on the 6th of November 1983, during which the guerrillas destroyed a vehicle and captured 15 arms and following an action on the village of Tutuala on the 20th of November 1983, during which the "nangallas" stationed there suffered seven losses, the assassin occupier imprisoned more than 200 people from Mehara and Porlamano and corralled them in the two school buildings of Mehara. Among the prisoners were old people, men, women and children (all of them family members of armed villagers who had gone over to the armed resistance in August 1983). Aside from beatings and torture (the women were also submitted to electric shocks and to the burning with cigarettes on the breast and face), nobody was allowed to go further than 5 meters from the school building. As there are no latrines, during daytime men as well as women "made the necessities" in the open under the eyes of the "nangallas" who mocked the women with immoral words and expressions such as " what are you doing, 'mama'!". And at night, the prisoners were forced "to make the necessities" in front of everyone in little cans that all of them had. The food came from the house of each of them but people were not always allowed to bring it. This way the two school buildings became prisons, where the prisoners slept, ate and "made the necessities" . Many of the prisoners have disappeared and in our next letter we shall send the names.

c) Another act of retaliation not less inhumane
After the revolt of Kraras the forces of occupation destroyed the village completely massacring more than 200 people;among them were men, women, invalids and children. The sick, invalids and little infants were burnt inside their houses. The population left without clothes, without food,seeking refuge on the mountain Bibileu. After intense bombing the forces of occupation captured about 500 people and massacred them at the river Be Tuku. Through constant bombings, a prolonged encirclement of the mountain and "cleaning" operations the surviving population was forced to surrender once again to the enemy. The aggressors took away from the population what it had left - big and small knives and spears. The whole population was sent to a place called Klaterek Mutiu and cannot cut "sagu" to eat nor wood to build huts. If it were not for the people of Bikarin who supported the surveivors of Kraras (formerly of the tribe Bibileu) they would have been decimated by hunger. All day and all night, men as well as women are put on "guard duty", while a platoon of "nangallas" is stationed there in the center of the field warning that if Fretilin attacks, the people would be exterminated.

d) Another act of retaliation against the population. Cases of this sort are countless and we only describe a few that are easily identifiable.
On the 15th, 16th and 17th of March 1984 there were successive confrontations in Bou Meke, Kaibrek and Buburako with the (Indonesian) company Bat. 328 during which the guerrillas of Company A, III Un inflicted many losses on the enemy.
The same company Bat. 328, moving east beyond the mountain Ossoala, entered the vegetable gardens of the people of the village of Venilale and caught 3 members of the population (who were in the gardens) and machine-gunned them. These people were Manuel, 38 years old; Francisco Loi, 27 years old; Isac de Sousa, 29 years old; they were born in the places Fatu Lia, Builale and UaiOli all part of Venilale. This case occurred on the 21st of March 1984.
During the whole month of May and the first half of June the new "hounds" of the battalions 741, 742 and 743 persecuted the two companies of the II Unit of Falintil that operated north of Matebian. The countless losses caused during the fighting in Kailoibere, Bu'u Bere, Ate Ua, Isi, Ailemo Boroloi and Ulu Su with the capture of arms only could be avenged on the 25th of June, when one company of battalion 741 passed through Venilale on their way to fight in the central regions. Near Venilale on the left margin of the Assalaitula river, where some people of the village have ricefields, the aggressors caught two men named Joao and Gaspar from Uai Oli and machine-gunned them. In the first case Isac was a nephew of the commander of the "hansips" from Venilale, Joaquim de Sousa, and in the second case, Joao was a cousin of DPR (Indonesian regional parliament) member Aleixo Ximenes; although angry, these two who are privileged under the Indonesian occupation could not and will not be able to do anything. We are certain that although they have cried over the deaths of their family members, they will not say one word to "delegations" that eventually will pass through East Timor.
In September of last year, after an attack on a position in Baha Sae, during which the guerrillas captured 5 arms, causing 5 deaths and 8 wounded, the "nangallas" stationed there imprisoned 17 members of the population, took them to Vemasse and massacred them there.
During the operation of Loi Boro Uai, near Baukau, on the 19th or May 1984 the guerrillas captured two ammunition boxes which had been left behind by the Indonesians on their flight.
After this event the authorities of occupation imprisoned 23 people, eight of them have disappeared after having been taken from prison at night. The family members, who used to bring them food, were informed that they "were studying in Jakarta"; the unhappy ones were illiterate!
The same way, on the 14th of May 1984, in the operation of Kairabela during which the guerrillas captured 10 arms, including

"Galaxes", and killed 15 Indonesian soldiers, more than 30 members of the population were imprisoned and in Baukau some of them disappeared.
These cases occur everywhere and constantly. We are trying to only give information on cases that are known by the whole population of the area in question. In our next report we shall provide information on more cases in other places.